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Search Query Syntax Quick Reference

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This table provides a set of examples for each type of search and information on the limitations for each.

Search Description	Example Search	Limitations
Search for text that contains a specific word	United	N/A
Search for text that contains a term with an unknown character or characters, or no character, in the wildcard character position	Uni* Uni*d Uni?ed	Wildcard terms cannot contain parentheses, whitespace, or double quotes.
Search for text that contains an exact sequence of characters, including embedded spaces	"United States"	Exact match (quoted) terms cannot contain additional double quote control characters.
Search for text that must contain multiple words	trade AND deficit AND spending	N/A
Search for text that contains at least one of several words	America OR USA OR "United States"	N/A
Search for text that contains one word but does not contain another word	United NOT States	<p>The logical operator <code>NOT</code> must first specify a term to search for. <code>NOT</code> cannot be used alone to find negative results.</p> <p>The logical operator <code>NOT</code> only produces additive (<code>AND</code>) expressions, and cannot be used in the same expression as an <code>OR</code>.</p>
Search for text that contains one word that is not part of a specific word or phrase	uni* EXCLUDE (United States ADJ 0)	<p>You must use parentheses and a proximity operator to use multi-word phrases as subqueries in <code>EXCLUDE</code> expressions. You cannot use quotation marks.</p> <p>You cannot use other logical operators in subqueries.</p>
Search for text that contains the search terms in <i>any</i> order, with no more than a specified number of words between them	foreign AND trade AND policy WITHIN 4	Proximity searches cannot use <code>OR</code> unless as a subexpression.
Search for text that contains the search terms in order, with no		Proximity searches cannot contain <code>NOT</code> . <code>NOT</code> searches can contain proximity searches.

more than a specified number of words between them

John AND
Fitzgerald AND
Kennedy ADJ 4

Proximity searches cannot contain nested AND subexpressions. AND must be part of a nested proximity subexpression.

Proximity searches are not supported by SearchAround.

Search for text using a combination of different logical expressions

Clinton AND
(Bill OR
William) WITHIN
3

You can only use one type of logical operator per expression. Logical operators must be separated in different parentheses to create subexpressions.

Embedded subexpressions must be enclosed in parentheses.

Search for text that is phonetically similar to the search term

~fekre
apples AND
~banannas

Metaphone terms cannot contain parentheses, wildcards, whitespace, or double quotes.

You cannot use metaphones with the proximity operators WITHIN or ADJ. This limitation applies even if the metaphone is enclosed in parentheses.

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